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LETTER DATED 2 OCTOBER 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the letter from the President dated 31 August 1992 (S/24504) setting forth the observations of the Security Council on my report of 20 August 1992 on the situation concerning Western Sahara (S/24464). As mentioned in that letter, in paragraph 14 of my report I stated that it was my intention to submit a further report to the Security Council before the end of September, focusing on the results of the talks by my Special Representative and each of the parties, which were due to commence on 24 August 1992 and were to concentrate on the interpretation of the criteria for eligibility to vote annexed to my predecessor's report of 19 December 1991 (S/23299).

Those talks began on 25 August 1992 and continued until 25 September 1992. My Special Representative has informed me that their results were not conclusive. He therefore proposed that he should undertake further consultations with a view to clarifying certain unresolved questions, and I agreed. Moreover, we intend to try to determine with the parties whether a meeting of tribal chiefs such as that organized by the United Nations at Geneva in June 1990 could contribute to the resolution of the problems impeding the implementation of the settlement plan.

Pending the end of the aforementioned consultations, I propose to postpone the submission of my report to the Security Council. I feel that in six to eight weeks I shall be in a better position to submit a complete report on the talks by my Special Representative and the parties and on his subsequent consultations with the parties and other interested entities, as well as my own conclusions and recommendations. In the meantime, I also propose to maintain the existing deployment and staffing of MINURSO.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

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